

REMARKS

Claims 2, 4-6, 8-11 and 15-17 are pending in the application. Claims 2, 4, 6, 8-11, 15 and 16 have been amended. Claims 1 and 12- 14 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 17 is newly added. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 8-16 under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as unpatentable over French Patent No. 2,705,766 to Sylvain, hereafter Sylvain, in view of UK Patent Application No. 2, 349,458 A to Thorneywork, hereafter Thorneywork.

This rejection is moot as to claims 1 and 12-14, which have been canceled, and is inapplicable to claims 2, 4, 6, 8-11, 15 and 16, which have been amended to change their dependency from canceled claim 1 to new claim 17. Thus, the rejection of the claim series 1, 2, 4-6, 8-11, 15 and 16 is obviated by the amendment.

For the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 2, 4-6, 8-11, 15 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is obviated by the amendment and should be withdrawn.

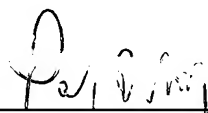
Although new claim 17 has not been rejected, the following observation is made. Claim 17 is modeled after canceled claims 1 and 12- 14. The combination of Sylvain and Thorneywork does not have all of the elements recited in new claim 17. Sylvain lacks a baffle plate that has all of its perforations covered by the catalytic converter. Sylvain's perforations 28 are not covered by catalytic converter 20. Sylvain also lacks a fan that circulates air between a cooking area and a fan area via all the covered perforations and a space between the baffle plate and the chamber walls. Sylvain circulates via perforation 17 and perforations 28 and not via a space between the baffle plate

and the chamber walls. Thorneywork circulates the air via ducting 19 and has no baffle plate. Therefore, the combination of Sylvain and Thorneywork lacks a baffle plate that has all of its perforations covered by the catalytic converter and a fan that circulates air between a cooking area and a fan area via all the covered perforations and a space between the baffle plate and the chamber walls as recited in new claim 17.

It is respectfully requested for the reasons set forth above that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn, that claims 2, 4-6, 8-11 and 15-7 be allowed and that this application be passed to issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

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